



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**Committee Bill No. 5209**

LCO No. 5891

\*05891HB05209ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT PERMITTING PERMANENTLY DISABLED HUNTERS TO HUNT DEER WITH A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-86a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

3 (a) The commissioner shall establish by regulation adopted in  
4 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 standards for deer  
5 management, and methods, regulated areas, bag limits, seasons and  
6 permit eligibility for hunting deer with bow and arrow, muzzleloader  
7 and shotgun, except that no such hunting shall be permitted on  
8 Sunday. No person shall hunt, pursue, wound or kill deer with a  
9 firearm without first obtaining a deer permit from the commissioner in  
10 addition to the license required by section 26-27. Application for such  
11 permit shall be made on forms furnished by the commissioner and  
12 containing such information as he may require. Such permit shall be of  
13 a design prescribed by the commissioner, shall contain such  
14 information and conditions as the commissioner may require, and may  
15 be revoked for violation of any provision of this chapter or regulations  
16 adopted pursuant thereto. As used in this section, "muzzleloader"

17 means a rifle or shotgun of at least forty-five caliber, incapable of firing  
18 a self-contained cartridge, which uses powder, a projectile, including,  
19 but not limited to, a standard round ball, mini-balls, maxi-balls and  
20 Sabot bullets, and wadding loaded separately at the muzzle end and  
21 "rifle" means a long gun the projectile of which is six millimeters or  
22 larger in diameter. The fee for a firearms permit shall be fourteen  
23 dollars for residents of the state and fifty dollars for nonresidents,  
24 except that any nonresident who is an active full-time member of the  
25 armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, may purchase a firearms  
26 permit for the same fee as is charged a resident of the state. The  
27 commissioner shall issue, without fee, a private land deer permit to the  
28 owner of ten or more acres of private land and the husband or wife,  
29 parent, grandparent, sibling and any lineal descendant of such owner,  
30 provided no such owner, husband or wife, parent, grandparent, sibling  
31 or lineal descendant shall be issued more than one such permit per  
32 season. Such permit shall allow the use of a rifle, shotgun,  
33 muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such land from November first to  
34 December thirty-first, inclusive. Deer may be so hunted at such times  
35 and in such areas of such state-owned land as are designated by the  
36 Commissioner of Environmental Protection and on privately owned  
37 land with the signed consent of the landowner, on forms furnished by  
38 the department, and such signed consent shall be carried by any  
39 person when so hunting on private land. The owner of ten acres or  
40 more of private land may allow the use of a rifle to hunt deer on such  
41 land during the shotgun season. The commissioner shall determine, by  
42 regulation, the number of consent forms issued for any regulated area  
43 established by said commissioner. The commissioner shall provide for  
44 a fair and equitable random method for the selection of successful  
45 applicants who may obtain shotgun and muzzleloader permits for  
46 hunting deer on state lands. Any person whose name appears on more  
47 than one application for a shotgun permit or more than one  
48 application for a muzzleloader permit shall be disqualified from the  
49 selection process for such permit. No person shall hunt, pursue,  
50 wound or kill deer with a bow and arrow without first obtaining a

51 bow and arrow permit pursuant to section 26-86c. "Bow and arrow" as  
52 used in this section and in section 26-86c means a bow with a draw  
53 weight of not less than forty pounds. The arrowhead shall have two or  
54 more blades and may not be less than seven-eighths of an inch at the  
55 widest point. No person shall carry firearms of any kind while hunting  
56 with a bow and arrow under said sections.

57 (b) Any person who takes a deer without a permit shall be fined not  
58 less than two hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars or  
59 imprisoned not less than thirty days or more than six months or shall  
60 be both fined and imprisoned, for the first offense, and for each  
61 subsequent offense shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars or  
62 more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year  
63 or shall be both fined and imprisoned.

64 (c) A permanently disabled person who provides the commissioner  
65 with written proof signed by a medical doctor confirming such  
66 permanent disability and who has obtained a firearm hunting license  
67 pursuant to section 26-27 to hunt deer on private land or state-owned  
68 land may hunt deer on such land, subject to the provisions of this  
69 section, with a pistol or revolver, as defined in section 29-27.

70 Sec. 2. Section 26-35 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
71 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

72 Each firearms hunting, archery hunting, trapping or sport fishing  
73 license or the combination firearms hunting and fishing license, except  
74 licenses issued pursuant to subdivisions (7) and (10) of subsection (a)  
75 of section 26-28, shall expire December thirty-first next following the  
76 date of issue and shall not be transferable. No person shall change or  
77 alter such a license or loan to another or permit another to have or use  
78 such license issued to himself or use any license issued to another. All  
79 licenses shall be carried as designated by the commissioner at all times  
80 when such licensee is hunting, trapping or sport fishing and shall be  
81 produced for examination upon demand of any conservation officer or  
82 other employee of the department designated by the commissioner or

83 any other officer authorized to make arrests or the owner or lessee or  
 84 the agent of any owner or lessee of any land or water upon which such  
 85 licensed person may be found. Whenever the commissioner has  
 86 designated any land or water area a wildlife management study area,  
 87 he may require such licensee to surrender his license upon entering  
 88 such area and issue to the licensee an arm band, back tag or other  
 89 identification. The license shall be returned to the licensee upon  
 90 leaving such area. Each person receiving a license to hunt or to trap  
 91 shall make an annual report to the commissioner in such form and at  
 92 such time as may be required by him showing the numbers and kinds  
 93 of birds and quadrupeds killed or trapped. [A] Except as provided in  
 94 section 26-86a, as amended by this act, a firearms hunting or a  
 95 combination firearms hunting and fishing license shall not authorize  
 96 the carrying or possession of a pistol or revolver.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	26-86a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	26-35

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide permanently disabled hunters with the option of using a pistol or revolver to hunt deer.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. O'NEILL, 69th Dist.

H.B. 5209